



Jarret Volunteer Fire Department

P.O. BOX 38, VON ORMY, TEXAS 78073 (210) 622-3900

4-16-2003

To: Roy Ramos, Senior Planner
From: Fire Chief John Ortega sr., JVFD
Re: Critical Services Report

This report is in reference to your request for information regarding the services that we render to the Von Ormy area. Our Fire Department provides fire, rescue, hazardous-materials, and Basic Life Support medical response to the citizens of Von Ormy. Our department staff consists of 17 volunteer firefighters. Typically, there are at least four firefighters or EMTs assigned to an alarm.

INCIDENT TYPES & RESPONSE TIME:

If the incident is of a large-scale nature a second alarm is given and additional personnel respond to the scene. The vast majority of our calls are BLS medical responses to back up the ALS Transport Unit (provided by American Medical Response-AMR;) followed by medical responses to Motor Vehicle Accidents, and then by fire incidents. Our average response time is about 11 minutes to any location within our 54 square mile district. We currently are one of the fastest responding fire departments in Southwest Bexar County.

PERSONNEL RESPONSE & CERTIFICATION LEVELS:

Generally during the evenings and weekends our station is manned by a company officer, engineer and two firefighter/first-responders or firefighter EMTs. During the times when a company is not in service at the station there is always an 'on-call' crew ready to respond to an alarm. Our members are available to respond twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year to any incident or emergency that we are dispatched to.

About one half of our firefighters are TDH medical responders with either ECA or EMT certifications. The remaining half of our firefighters are trained to at least the Basic First Aid, and CPR/AED level. One quarter of our personnel are Hazardous-Materials and WMD certified. And eight other firefighters have received specialized training in either vehicle extrication, swift-water response, or other rescue training. Four other firefighters have received special training in Groundcover Firefighting Tactics through the State.

FIRE APPARATUS:

Our department currently has two Class A Pumpers both carrying 1000 gallons of water, and one Heavy Brush Truck carrying 1200 gallons.

Our Engine #1 is a 2003 Pierce Enforcer equipped to handle all fire incidents as well as vehicle extrications, swift-water responses, and has limited low angle rescue capabilities. It is first-out on any fire run, (except a brush fire) medical responses, and all hazardous materials and rescue incidents. It is equipped with Class A and B Foam Capabilities and a light system. Engine 1 also carries out vehicle

extrications it is equipped with a Holmotro Rescue Tool system, and Sawzalls to effect these types of rescues.

Our Engine #2 is a 2002 Pierce-International Commercial Cab Pumper equipped to handle a variety of incidents as well. Engine 2 backs up Engine 1 at structure fires, some motor-vehicle accidents, and all hazardous materials and rescue responses. Occasionally #2 serves as first due company for medical responses. Engine 2 is capable of flowing Class A foam as well.

We have a very capable Jeep-Kaiser Heavy Brush Truck. This truck is capable of maneuvering through virtually any terrain in the area and has seen service in several other counties as well during mutual aid operations. Our BT#1 combines a powerful fire pump, and a large volume of water with an equally powerful engine capable of delivering a fire attack into any location no matter how remote it may be. The truck's six-wheel drive allows it to be driven through rough terrain, heavy brush, and unfavorable soil conditions. We have found BT#1 to be particularly useful in conducting water rescues and occupant removal. Brush Truck-1 has proven to be an invaluable resource for navigating through the heavy brush and rugged terrain that is common to many parts of our district.

OPERATING & CAPITAL EXPENDITURES for FY2002:

On average our Fire Department spent about \$1000 a month in the course of regular operations last year. There were no capital expenditures.

I sincerely hope that this letter has provided you with the information that you were looking for. I would appreciate if you would advise me if SAFD will be responding into any part of my district in the future and if you can provide me the names of the SAFD Company Officers that may be responding and their contact numbers so that we may work together to ensure the proper protection of the citizens of Von Ormy and San Antonio. If you have any more questions or comments please feel free to contact me directly at 210-336-9455. Thank you.

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Ortega sr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Fire Chief John Ortega sr., Jarret VFD

jdo